



U.S. Department of Justice

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PRESS RELEASE

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District Man Found Guilty of Violent Stabbing And Attempted Sexual Assault of Woman Sleeping in Her Home

WASHINGTON - Rashaun I. Gee, 24, of the District, was found guilty today by a jury of breaking into a home in the 500 block of 14th Street SE, in the middle of the night, repeatedly stabbing a 23-year-old woman who was living there, and attempting to sexually assault her, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced.

Gee, of the 100 block of 15th Street, NE, was found guilty in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia of all five counts in the case – first degree burglary while armed, assault with intent to kill while armed, aggravated assault while armed, malicious disfigurement while armed and attempted first degree sexual abuse while armed (with aggravating circumstances).

The Honorable Russell F. Canan presided over the trial. Sentencing is scheduled for November 16, 2010. The defendant faces a possible sentence of 30 years in prison for each of each of the five counts.

The evidence at trial established that just after midnight on October 7, 2008, Gee broke into the victim's home through the kitchen window while she was sleeping. Gee went down the stairs to her basement bedroom. The victim saw him come down the stairs, grabbed her cell phone, and ran into the bathroom. While she was on the telephone with 911 Gee came into the bathroom and immediately started stabbing her in her abdomen and chest. The victim fought Gee.

As she tried to escape into the laundry room, he continued to stab her on her back and the back of her limbs. He also attempted to sexually assault her. She continued to fight him and, ultimately, he left. Gee stabbed her a total of 17 times and several of those wounds created a grave risk of death to her. Evidence at trial also established that Gee was identified as the assailant because he left his fingerprints on the point of entry (the kitchen window), and a shirt found in a nearby alley had the victim's blood on the hem and Gee's DNA on the neckline.

In announcing the guilty verdict, U.S. Attorney Machen noted that this case was successfully investigated and prosecuted with a large team of extremely dedicated individuals.

U.S. Attorney Machen commended numerous members of the Metropolitan Police Department, including the lead MPD Detective, Wallace Carmichael, and lead Mobile Crime Lab Officers Natasha Pettus and Fred Brown. He also recognized and thanked numerous other MPD officers, detectives, and sergeants who dedicated significant time and effort to the case, including Officer Matthew Batko, Officer Keith Raynor, Officer David Murray, Detective Ingrid Harkins, Detective Don Juan Monroe, Officer Jeffrey Scharf, MCL Officer Dwayne Mitchell, Sergeant James Ginger, Detective David Adams, Sergeant Julius Hunter, and Sgt. Ronald Reid. He also commended the outstanding work and guidance provided by MPD Crime Laboratory Manager Lisa Brewer, Quality Assurance Manager Rebecca Post, DNA Analyst Jessica Skillman, Forensic Scientist Kristy Hopkinson, and Hair/Fiber Analyst Harold Deadman. He praised the tireless work by veteran MPD Latent Print Analyst Hayward Bennett.

Mr. Machen praised the assistance of Victim Witness Services Coordinator Katina Adams and Victim Witness Advocates Iris Vega and Melissa Milam, of the U.S. Attorney's Office, who provided invaluable emotional support to the victim and her family. He also thanked Paralegals Joyce Arthur and Tiffany Jones and Legal Assistant Ashley Patterson. He recognized and thanked Litigation Services Unit Operations Manager Linda McDonald and legal assistant Tierra Nanches, and Litigation Support Specialist Ron Royal, who provided extremely helpful assistance both before and during trial.

U.S. Attorney Machen thanked U.S. Attorney's Office Intelligence Specialist Lawrence Grasso for his assistance in numerous aspects of the investigation of this case. He gave particular commendation to First District Officer Robert M. Johnson who, through good old-fashioned police work, found the critical piece of forensic evidence that made this prosecution possible. And, finally, he commended Assistant U.S. Attorney Sharon Marcus-Kurn who indicted and prosecuted the case and Peter Taylor who prosecuted the case at trial with Ms. Marcus-Kurn.